

# STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**May 12, 2016**

**ATTENDEES:** Ron Baldwin, State of Montana CIO, Vice Chairman; Curt Stinson, MACOP; Jon Swartz, MDOT; Bob Drake, MVFFA Alternate; Tom Butler, MDOJ; Geoff Feiss, MTA; Mike Doto, MVFFA; Delila Bruno, MDMA; Patrick Lonergan, MFCA; Clint Loss, MEMSA Alternate; Rich Cowger, MFCA Alternate;

**GUESTS:** Brad Steiner, Motorola; Quinn Ness; MDOA/SITSD; Dale Osborne, MDOJ/MHP; Rhonda Sullivan, MDOA/SITSD; Dan Sullivan, MDOA/SITSD; Wing Spooner, MDOA/SITSD; Mike Feldman, MDOJ/MHP; Charlie Gilmore; LCSO; Steve Keller, MDT; Larry Morsette, Chippewa Cree Tribe; Becky Brandborg, Contractor

**CONFERENCE CALL:** Kevin Myhre, MLCT; Dorothy Gremaux, City of Lewistown; Adriane Beck, Missoula County; Chris Lounsbury, Missoula County

**CALL TO ORDER:** Ron Baldwin, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Geoff Feiss moved to accept the April minutes, Curt Stinson seconded and the motion carried.

**FIRSTNET CONSULTATION TASK TEAMS:** Dan Sullivan provided the following updates on upcoming 2016 FirstNet Highlights:

- State/Territory Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Meeting: Held in Helena on March 2, 2016.
- Governance Body Meetings: FirstNet staff will provide a presentation at June 9<sup>th</sup> SIGB meeting.
- Executive Consultation Meeting: A future meeting to be scheduled with key state decision makers who will advise the Governor on the opt-out provision in statute.
- Consultation Task Teams (CTT) Definition/Purpose: State/territory task teams will be formed around subjects on which FirstNet is seeking further stakeholder input. Their purpose is to provide a formal opportunity for stakeholders in each state/territory across all levels of government to provide input in order to form FirstNet network policies and operations.
- The first topic for CTT's to address will be quality of service, priority and preemption.
- FirstNet is asking that CTT Members:
  - Read/view FirstNet background materials and take online survey;
  - Schedule a meeting to discuss the OPP framework and provide feedback;
  - Participate in two FirstNet sponsored webinars;
  - Suggested membership for the Montana CTT is as follows:
    - Patrick Lonergan, Chair, Bozeman Fire & DES
    - Derek Yeager, Fire Program Manager, Southern Land Office
    - Scott McMahon, IT Manager, City of Bozeman
    - Patrick Murphy, IMT IT, US Forest Service
    - Bill Hunter, Director, Great Falls 9-1-1

- Jim Anderson, Gallatin Co. Sherriff's Office
- Kris Kaull, Flight Medic Reach Air Medical
- Donald Long Knife, IT Director, Fort Belknap Community

**MOTION:** Delila Bruno moved to accept the CTT working group membership, to be chaired by Patrick Lonergan. Jon Swartz seconded to include option for membership to be broadened in the future. The motion carried.

**STATEWIDE LMR SYSTEM:** Tom Butler introduced Brad Steiner, Senior Account Executive with Motorola, who was invited to provide information regarding land mobile radio system(s).

Brad Steiner began his presentation, stating that he was engaged by MDOJ/MHP to identify deficiencies in the current system; and that his purpose in Montana is to assist in determining its communication needs and help meet those to the best of his ability.

**SCOPE: The Future of Communications in Montana:**

➤ Current State of the System:

- A state managed system does not exist but everyone assumes it does.
- “It’s not my problem” FACT: Many agencies are hosting state users on their equipment/system, and not the other way around.
- System ownership: Need to get everyone on the same page.
- Primary issue identified: There is not a cohesive group whose job it is to keep the system functioning and its users satisfied.
- There is no process for getting anything done and doing nothing diminishes performance over time.

➤ Large Scale Options for Montana Today:

- Do nothing. Results:
  - Life safety/reliability becomes an issue.
  - Multiple new systems with higher overall cost, likely less functionality.
  - System will continue to operate.
  - Sites will go out of support
- Rely on someone else. Results:
  - Are we less accountable?
  - What does it cost?
  - Is it sustainable?
  - Do we have a say in solutions?
  - Does it meet our needs?
  - Can it be changed?
  - Are we the voice or one of many? How many?
  - Would require a sustainability plan?
  - FirstNet Viability:
    - a. All systems require stable funding to be successful.
    - b. FirstNet is courting partners who will be accountable for building and sustaining the network.

c. FirstNet does not have a sustainability plan/commitment yet.

- FirstNet is not a practical solution to the current issues, but could be a solution in the future
- Own Your Own Solution. Results:
  - LMR selected for continued use.
  - System approach must be reconfigured to meet Montana needs. Current approach doesn't work with technical changes required, long term funding sustainment put in place and system management organization required.
  - End result is a Montana custom plan and system(s).
  - Montana gets what it requires on a schedule it controls.
- LMR Options for Montana (P25 Based Network):
  - Abandon current system:
    - All new system of systems
    - Interoperability achieved thru ISSI patches and/or control stations
    - New/multiple procurements
  - Support and grow current system;
    - System expanded and supported via single platform
    - Conventional trunking VHF/UHF/700/800 MHz, WiFi & Cellular
    - Since last procurement, P25 has changed.
  - Hybrid System Approach, P25-Based Network:
    - Somewhat New system of systems
    - Interop achieved through Motorola ISSI patches and/or control stations.
- Multiple Vendor Options:
  - P25 now allows the use across the state of multiple systems types and multiple subscriber types.
  - Practical Deployment Experience:
    - Multi-vendor system is rare
    - Multi-vendor subscriber approach is common
    - Contracting for an outcome, not hardware
- Support and Growth Approach:
  - Project 25 based network.
  - Support and grow current system.
  - System expanded and supported via single platform.
  - Conventional trunking VHF/UHF/700/800 MHz, WiFi & Cellular.

➤ Motorola's Analysis/Proposed Action Plan:

- Current system as it exists today is *not* the model to continue
  - One technology does not fit all.
  - System management needs to be created.
  - User satisfaction needs to be prioritized.
  - Stable funding must be identified and secured.

- Support and Grow Process:
  - Create Plan
  - Obtain partners
  - Obtain funding
  - Refine Plan
  - Execute commit to plan
  - Identify unmet needs
- Technical Plan:
  - Projects and scope created based on meeting with key stakeholders:
    - MDOJ/MHP
    - MDT
    - Gallatin County
    - Lewis & Clark County
    - Flathead County

➤ Work to Date & Commitment (Three-Phase Plan for Future Montana System):

- Catchup Phase (get system current to Dynamic System Resilience)
  - Upgrade the entire system to more current release
  - Upgrade the MDOJ/MHP dispatch consoles
  - Convert the system to one that supports DSR
  - Add Motorola services to help maintain the system and provide for component repair monitoring.
- Sustainment Phase (long term support):
  - Replace equipment currently scheduled to be out of support
  - Convert/expand areas of the system to different bands for better performance
  - Create a System Upgrade Agreement (SUA) contract so that the system will have a fixed/known cost to maintain and keep current.
- Expansion Phase (address wants):
  - Add RF Sites to network.
  - Increase user access and management capabilities for counties/agencies that desire it.
  - Replace subscriber radios as necessary.

Technical Plan Summary: This summary will provide a stable foundation for Montana to utilize its existing LMR system for the next decade; and can be priced at a fixed cost over multiple years.

- Costs/Budgetary Level Costs:
  - Catchup Phase: \$4.9M
  - Sustainment: \$14.5M
  - System Upgrade Agreement: \$750K per year (includes system software every two years and necessary hardware upgrades over a 10-year period (network infrastructure only)).
  - NOTE: General maintenance not included.

Other States Management/Funding Models:

- Montana is in good company with surrounding states who are dealing with similar circumstances.
- “Musts” for Montana:
  - Create organization & accountability for system performance & management.
  - Create feedback mechanisms to address user issues and needs.
  - Create a stable funding system.
  - Show value to both the legislature (return on investment) and the users (performance).
  - Demonstrate a genuine desire to get it done (it can start here today).

Proposed Management Model:

- Montana Funding Sources:
  - State funds (onetime)
  - Stable funds (fees/taxes)
  - Radio system User Fees
- An “Agency” chartered with the statewide radio system. That agency must:
  - Contract for entire system
  - Upgrade/maintenance
  - Provide services for a fee(s)
- Contract Management:
  - Control quality of system
  - Service level agreements with customer agencies.
  - Motorola typically contracts for outcomes, not hardware.
  - Will provide free hardware until system works.

Tom Butler: At the next meeting, the board needs to hold discussion on where to go from here; and come up with a plan for the 2019 legislature, and that plan needs to be only one path forward.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Tom Butler requested that Brad provide funding figures on what Montana is currently spending with Motorola; as well draft a breakdown on costs to “catch up”.

**NEXT MEETING/ADJOURN:** The next meeting is June 9<sup>th</sup>, at the DOT Commission Room, 1:30-3:30. The meeting adjourned at 3:55.